

REMARKS

In the Restriction Requirement mailed July 26, 2006, the Examiner stated that restriction to one of the following inventions was required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-9, drawn to a computer system receiving a query, responding to the query by searching two databases.
- II. Claims 10-13, drawn to an interface for an online legal research service.

In response, applicant elects, without traverse, Group I, claims 1-9 and 14-21. Claim 14 is a new claim, which stems from claim 1 and which includes all the limitations of claim 12. The Examiner has designated claim 12 as belonging to Group II. As such, claim 14 links the claims of Groups I and Group II.

MPEP Section 809 states that “linking claims must be examined with the invention elected, and should any linking claim be allowed, the restriction requirement must be withdrawn.” In other words, allowance of a linking claim requires joinder of the linked inventions. Thus, in the present application, allowance of linking claim 14 from Group I will require joinder of Groups I and II. Accordingly, the claims of Group II remain pending in the application along with the elected Group I.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests examination of all the Group I claims. Additionally, applicant invites the Examiner to telephone its patent counsel Eduardo Drake at (612) 349-9593 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

FORREST RHOADS ET AL.

By their Representatives,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 26th day of September 2006.

JONATHAN FERGUSON
Name

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Signature